

What is claimed is:

1. A method for verifying information, the method comprising:

collecting information to be verified from a plurality of different sources, at least two of the sources providing the information in formats which differ from one another;
modifying the collected information to conform to a common format;
storing the modified information in a common database; and
providing the stored information.

2. The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the information facilitates verification of the validity of an alcoholic beverage license.

3. The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the step of collecting information comprises collecting information from a plurality of different sources.

4. The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the step of collecting information comprises collecting information from a plurality of different sources within at least one of:
a federal government agency;
a state government agency; and
a city government agency.

5. The method as recited in claim 1, wherein modifying the information comprises using an application to conform a format of the information to a single format suitable for a common database.

6. The method as recited in claim 1, wherein modifying the information comprises using a first application to select which one of a plurality of second applications to use to conform the information to a common format.

7. The method as recited in claim 1, wherein modifying the information comprises using a first application to select which one of a plurality of second applications to use to conform the information to a common format, the first application basing the selection of which one of the plurality of second applications to use upon a format of the collected information and the selected second application being configured to modify the format of the collected information so as to conform to the common format.

8. The method as recited in claim 1, wherein providing the stored information comprises providing the stored information via a network.

9. The method as recited in claim 1, wherein providing the stored information comprises providing the stored information via the Internet.

10. The method as recited in claim 1, wherein providing the stored information comprises providing the stored information via a virtual private network.

11. The method as recited in claim 1 ,wherein providing the stored information comprises providing the stored information via a dedicated connection.

12. The method as recited in claim 1, wherein providing the stored information comprises providing the stored information via a leased telephone line.

13. The method as recited in claim 1, further comprising displaying the provided information.

14. The method as recited in claim 1, further comprising displaying the provided information via a web browser.

15. The method as recited in claim 1, further comprising displaying the provided information via an executable program.

16. The method as recited in claim 1, further comprising requesting verification of the information.

17. The method as recited in claim 1, further comprising requesting verification of a single unit of information.

18. The method as recited in claim 1, further comprising requesting verification of a plurality of units of information according to a bulk processing procedure.

19. A method for verifying the validity of an alcoholic beverage license, the method comprising:

collecting information regarding validity of alcoholic beverage licenses with a plurality of different jurisdictions;

modifying the collected information to conform to a common format; storing the modified information in a common database; and

providing the modified information via a network.

20. A system for verifying information, the system comprising:

a first memory for storing information from a plurality of different sources;

a first processor for determining the format of the information;

a second processor for modifying the format of at least some of the information so as to conform the formats of all of the information to a common format; and

a second memory for storing the modified information according to the common format.

21. The system as recited in claim 20, further comprising a network connection for facilitating communication of the information.

22. The system as recited in claim 20, further comprising at least one dedicated communications connection for facilitating communication of the information.